

50 Years Since Women of All Red Nations: Indigenous Feminisms for the Future | 44th Annual Conference Presidential Session

Curated by Kristina Gupta, NWSA Member at Large & Member Liaison

In 1974, activists including Lorelei DeCora Means, Madonna Thunderhawk, Phyllis Young, Janet McCloud, and Marie Sanchez founded Women of All Red Nations (WARN). Involving members from over 30 tribal communities, WARN challenged settler colonialism - especially coercive sterilization and mining on native lands - while also advocating for the rights of women within native communities and sovereignty movements. This presidential session celebrates the 50th anniversary of the founding of WARN by bringing together Indigenous feminist scholars and activists to discuss key issues in Indigenous feminist scholarship and activism, including the ongoing need to challenge settler colonialism and the violence it enables against Indigenous women and Two-Spirit People, as well as the ways Indigenous feminists theorize notions of (non)human relationality, environmental stewardship, decolonization, and sovereignty.

Edited Collections of Recent Scholarship

Starblanket, Gina. Making Space for Indigenous Feminism, 3rd Edition. Fernwood Publishing, 2024.

In Good Relation: History, Gender, and Kinship in Indigenous Feminisms. University of Manitoba Press, 2020.

Barker, Joanne, et al. Critically Sovereign: Indigenous Gender, Sexuality, and Feminist Studies. Duke University Press, 2017.

Contemporary Books

DeLisle, Christine Taitano. Placental Politics: CHamoru Women, White Womanhood, and Indigeneity Under U.S. Colonialism in Guam. University of North Carolina Press, 2022.

Osorio, Jamaica Heolimeleikalani. Remembering Our Intimacies: Mo'olelo, Aloha'Aina, and Ea. University of Minnesota Press, 2021.

McGuire-Adams, Tricia. Indigenous Feminist Gikendaasowin (Knowledge): Decolonization Through Physical Activity. Springer, 2020.

Nickel, Sarah A. Assembling Unity: Indigenous Politics, Gender, and the Union of BC Indian Chiefs. UBC Press, 2019.

King, Tiffany Lethabo. The Black shoals: Offshore formations of Black and Native studies. Duke University Press, 2019.

Harjo, Laura. Spiral to the stars: Mvskoke tools of futurity. University of Arizona Press, 2019.

Arvin, Maile. Possessing Polynesians: The Science of Settler Colonial Whiteness in Hawai'i and Oceania. Duke University Press, 2019.

Kuokkanen, Rauna. Restructuring Relations: Indigenous Self-Determination, Governance, and Gender. Oxford University Press, 2019.

Theobald, Brianna. Reproduction on the Reservation: Pregnancy, Childbirth, and Colonialism in the Long Twentieth Century. University of North Carolina Press, 2019. Speed, Shannon. Incarcerated Stories: Indigenous Women Migrants and Violence in the Settler-capitalist State. University of North Carolina Press, 2019.

Kauanui, J. Kēhaulani. Paradoxes of Hawaiian Sovereignty: Land, Sex, and the Colonial Politics of State Nationalism. Duke University Press, 2018.

Baldy, Cutcha Risling. We are dancing for you: Native feminisms and the revitalization of women's coming-of-age ceremonies. University of Washington Press, 2018.

Akaka, Moanike'ala, et al. Nā wāhine koa: Hawaiian women for sovereignty and demilitarization. University of Hawaii Press, 2018.

Teves, Stephanie Nohelani. Defiant Indigeneity: The Politics of Hawaiian Performance. University of North Carolina Press, 2018.

Rifkin, Mark. Beyond Settler Time: Temporal Sovereignty and Indigenous Self-Determination. Duke University Press, 2017.

Deer, Sarah. The Beginning and End of Rape: Confronting Sexual Violence in Native America. University of Minnesota Press, 2017.

Simpson, Leanne Betasamosake. As We Have Always Done: Indigenous Freedom Through Radical Resistance. University of Minnesota Press, 2017.

Suzack, Cheryl. Indigenous Women's Writing and the Cultural Study of Law. University of Toronto Press, 2017.

Anderson, Kim. A Recognition of Being: Reconstructing Native Womanhood. Women's Press, 2016.

Whitebear, Luhui. "Resisting The Settler Gaze: California Indigenous Feminisms". Feminist Formations 35.1 (2023): 97-116.

Media and Other Resources:

Film: Warrior Women (2018)

Langston, Donna Hightower. "American Indian Women's Activism in the 1960s and 1970s." Hypatia, vol. 18, no. 2, 2003, pp. 114–32.

Coalition to Stop Violence Against Native Women

National Indigenous Women's Resource Center, Inc. (NIWRC)

Nooni Project

Sacred Waters Collective